

## GRAND ARMY MATTERS.

## A PLEASANT REUNION OF THE OHIO VETERAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Rapid Growth of the Order of the Grand Army. New Posts Established in Various States—Official Order from the Commander-in-Chief—Honoring a Chaplain's Memory—Memorial Celebration in New York—Grand Army Notes of Interest.

## Special Correspondence National Tribune.

DEFIANCE, OHIO, August 1.—The Society of the Sixty-eighth Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry held its annual Reunion here on the 23d ult. There was a full attendance, each company of the old command being fully represented both by the rank and file.

Telegrams were received announcing the illness and inability to attend of both General B. K. Scott and Gen. Geo. E. Welles.

After some preliminary proceedings the following programme was observed:

1. Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. Joseph Porter, late of Co. G, Sixty-eighth O. V. V. I., of Metz, Ind.

2. Address by the chaplain, Rev. Joseph Porter, late of Co. G, Sixty-eighth O. V. V. I., of Metz, Ind.

3. Response by Rev. Joseph Porter.

4. Address of welcome by Mayor Deatrick on behalf of the citizens of Defiance.

Major James S. Reeves, of Niles, Mich., surgeon of the Seventy-eighth O. V. V. I., and promoted to brigade surgeon, in which position he became identified with the Sixty-eighth, was in attendance. On being introduced he spoke of the pleasure it gave him to meet so many of the Sixty-eighth regiment, which, so far as his feelings were concerned, was a part of his own regiment, having, as an officer of the brigade, lost his regimental identity and learned to look upon all regiments of the Ohio brigade as one organization. He passed a glowing eulogy on the bravery of the regiment and of their devotion to duty during the dark days of the war. He congratulated all, including himself, on the youthful appearance which they had retained, claiming that, to him at least, they looked fresher and younger than when he last looked into their sun-browned, fatigue-worn faces. He received a hearty welcome from the Society, and will be anxiously looked for at future Reunions.

Promptly at twelve o'clock the regiment formed by companies on Clinton street in front of the Court House, under the supervision of Captain L. W. Richardson. The old battle-flags of the regiment, having been secured from Columbus, were carried by the old guards. The column was headed by the Defiance Band, followed by Bishop and Hicks' Posts, G. A. R., under the command of Frank C. Cully, of Defiance. The line of march was up Clinton street to Lattin's Grove, near the Union school building, where a grove dinner was prepared for the ex-soldiers and invited guests. In the preparation and serving of the dinner the citizens of Defiance did themselves great credit; more ample provisions or orderly serving has never greeted the ex-soldier since his discharge.

Immediately after dinner the column reformed and marched back to the Court House. At two o'clock the society was again called to order, and the regular business of the organization taken up.

Captain L. G. Randall, Captain P. H. Mooney, and Captain W. F. Williams were appointed a committee on resolutions.

On call of companies the following deaths were reported: Captain Charles Bates and John Larey, of Company B; Sergeant W. H. Bruner, Company C; William Moore and David Steeler, Company F; Myron Richardson, Company G; Patrick Condon and James Maher, Company H; Captain Ira Kesey, George Shroder, and John Gorrell, Company I; William A. Lingie, Company E.

On motion, it was decided to hold the next Reunion at Antwerp, Paulding county, July 4, 1883.

On motion, Major James S. Reeves, Niles, Mich., and Captain Andrew Scott, of Defiance county, both members of the Seventy-eighth Ohio veteran volunteers, were made honorary members of the Society of the Sixty-eighth Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry.

The committee on resolutions reported as follows:

Whereas we have received notice by telegram of the illness of General B. K. Scott and General George E. Welles; therefore,

Resolved, That we, their comrades, tender to them our sympathies and regret their absence.

Resolved, That we hereby extend our thanks to Bishop Post, G. A. R., to the mayor and citizens of Defiance for their hospitality; also our thanks to the band for the music on this occasion.

L. G. Randall, W. F. Williams, P. H. Mooney, committee.

On motion, the secretary was authorized to issue orders on the society treasurer for all legitimate expenses incurred by the society in the interest of this meeting.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, George E. Welles, Toledo, Ohio; Secretary, S. Gillis, Bryan, Ohio; Treasurer, L. W. Richardson, Defiance, Ohio; Chaplain, Rev. Joseph Porter, Metz, Ind.; Vice-Presidents, Company A, A. J. Tressler; Company B, William H. Palmer; Company C, Charles Carpenter; Company D, L. Hoy; Company E, W. H. Hingshaw; Company F, F. M. Bruhaker; Company G, Riley Shaffer; Company H, Jacob Fultz; Company I, H. H. Fast; Company K, F. P. Brakeman.

By resolution passed at the meeting of the society in Bryan in 1880 it was made the duty of the Vice-Presidents to present a written report, not only of the deaths that may have occurred, but items of interest regarding the living, their post-office address, occupation, families, and financial prospects at each meeting of the association.

Letters of regret at not being able to be present and participate in the Reunion were received and read from Major-General John A. Logan, Washington, D. C., and Captain J. C. Banks, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Captain Richardson received a telegram from General M. D. Leggett, Cleveland, and a letter from Dr. William Mason, of Paris, Illinois, each sending greetings and regrets at not being permitted to be present.

## THE ORDER IN INDIANA.

Shively Post, No. 68, G. A. R., was organized in Huntington, Ind., by A. C. Rosenkranz, Junior Vice-Commander for the Department of Indiana, assisted by Commander W. H. Keller, S. V. C. H. Meyerhoff, Adjutant August Leach, O. D. J. W. Messick, and Commander S. B. Sanson, of Farrington Post, No. 27, of Evansville.

The Post organized with twenty-seven members and elected the following named gentlemen as its officers: Post Commander, C. C. Schroeder; S. V. C., M. Fisher; J. V. C., F. Kinchel; Surg., W. K. McMahon; Chaplain, T. R. Green; O. D. C., M. Meers; Q. M., W. B. Pickle; Adj't, J. Murray; O. G., J. Collins; S. M., H. L. Wheat; Q. M. S., W. B. Sholders.

After the business of the Post was concluded the comrades adjourned to the St. George, where they were entertained at supper by the comrades resident of the city.

The Post is named after Captain Lewis Byron Shively, captain of company F, Fifty-third regiment Indiana volunteers. Captain

Shively fought in Mexico and was killed at Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864.

Captain Shively was one of Dubois county's bravest sons, and we think the Post did well in thus remembering our honored dead.

## POST ORGANIZED AT JEFFERSONVILLE.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

JEFFERSONVILLE, IND., August 3.—On last Wednesday evening, at our new City Hall Post, No. 86, G. A. R., was instituted by Department Commander General Canham, of Indianapolis, who conducted the initiatory ceremonies. The charter members present were John Craig, J. P. Dibble, Henry Dibble, C. W. Glosbrenner, J. J. Gallagher, W. K. Gray, Martin Graham, James Keigwin, Adam Lamm, E. G. Neeld, W. H. Northon, Philip Specht, John W. Thomson, Henry Timmonds, G. C. Watson, J. S. Wheeler, P. L. Worrell, Luther F. Worder, (mayor of city), and J. L. White.

Several of those who had signed the roll were unavoidably absent, but will be considered as charter members. Their names are as follows: Burt Dean, J. W. Whitlow, Joseph Naylor, A. M. Luke, Isaac Brinkworth, Hugh Mitchell, John Delahunt, Dr. W. D. Fouts, R. M. Johnston, —Wilson, O. A. Clark, James A. Spencer, George H. Carter.

After the initiatory ceremonies an election of officers was held, which resulted as follows: Commander, James Keigwin; S. V. C., John W. Thomson; J. V. C., J. B. Pifer; O. D. C., J. S. Wheeler; O. G., G. C. Watson; Adj't, E. G. Neeld; Q. M., Philip Specht; Chaplain, J. J. Gallagher. The officers were duly installed by the Department Commander. The place and time for regular monthly meetings have not as yet been settled upon. The meeting was an enthusiastic and successful one, and it is the intention to enroll all veteran soldiers and sailors in this community and make it the leading Post in southern Indiana. Already quite a number of applications have been received for membership. We will give it a name at our next meeting. Yours in P., C. and L.,

W. K. GRAY.

## NEW POST AT MOUNT VERNON.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

MT. VERNON, IND., August 4, 1882.—We organized a Post of the G. A. R. here, called Lyon Post, No. 80, Department of Indiana, on the 14th of July last. Although we have had but two meetings since we have between thirty and forty members and expect to muster eight or ten more to-night. The most of our members are subscribers to your valuable paper, and I think every member of our Post, or who joins our Post, will become a subscriber. We are having an abundant wheat crop and the prospects are good for corn, consequently times will be easier and the boys will have more money, so as to be able to subscribe. Do all you can in getting the equalization of bounty passed and give us the names of Congressmen who vote for and against our interests.

Yours, very truly,

WM. WIMPELBERG, Lyon Post, No. 80, Dept. of Ind.

## THE ORDER IN NEW YORK.

Rapid Growth of Kilpatrick Post—Flag Presentation—An Interesting Occasion.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

NEW YORK, August 8.—Judson Kilpatrick Post, No. 143, Department of New York, was formed in last December with ten members, in Bunting Hall, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth st. and Third Avenue, N. Y. This was a very small number to start with, but as they were ten resolute comrades it has been a growing Post, making a steady gain all the time. When mustered in on the 28th of December, twenty-one comrades were present. On Decoration day they turned out in uniform, and by their superior marching and correct alignment well earned the plaudits which were bestowed upon them along the line of march. They carried with them in the march a beautiful silk flag, which was presented to them by their warm-hearted friends of Harlem. There had not been time for a formal presentation of the flag, so a few evenings since the Commander gave a reception to the friends of the Post, and the flag was then formally presented. The event called out the notables of the G. A. R., and a brilliant assembly were gathered in the Post rooms. There were present Gen. H. A. Barnum, Maj. Willard Bullard; Perley, Commander Reno Post, No. 44; Walker, Commander Rankin Post, No. 10; Commander Carter, Sumner, No. 24; Woodruff of Rankin, No. 10, and many others whose names we did not get, not to forget Sam Minnes, "unattached," who can make more noise than any man in or out of the G. A. R. The night was warm but the room was crowded with not only notable G. A. R. men, but also a fair proportion of ladies, by their presence, added much to the occasion. Gen. Barnum made a very happy speech, telling how, when up at Syracuse, he and Bullard had been made captive by the fair maids of "Onondaga." Then came the speech of the evening by Commander Bullard in presenting the flag to the Post. The speech was exhaustive on the subject of flags and demonstrated that Commander Bullard had given great care and study to its preparation. His eloquence brought forth frequent rounds of applause. Commander Reed received the flag in a speech terse and full of patriotism. The exercises of the evening were enlivened by songs and recitations by kind friends who had volunteered for the occasion. This Post now numbers seventy members, showing which cannot be beat, we think, by any other Post in this State. It is destined to wield an important influence upon Grand Army affairs in the New York Department.

## A POST ORGANIZED AT WEBSTER.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

WEBSTER, N. Y., August 3, 1882.—A Post of the G. A. R. has been organized at this place with twenty-two charter members, to be known as Post 275, Department of New York. The following named comrades have been elected officers: A. J. Pratt, Post Commander; Wm. R. Bancroft, S. V. C.; Jacob Hoffman, J. V. C.; Geo. Knight, O. D. C.; Frank Vanalstyne, O. G.; John Hamill, Q. M.; Chas. Foster, Adjutant. The members of the Post are R. A. Corey, J. Gloor, Jno. Reid, August Weibert, John Witmer, Sam'l D. Gould, A. Cozman, M. Haydon, A. J. Willard, W. Williams, Chas. Clow, J. Schlegel, I. Green, C. Curcio, W. Vanalstyne. JACOB HOFFMAN.

## A GRAND ARMY MEMORIAL.

There was a large assemblage of ladies and of veterans of the late war Monday evening at the headquarters of Rankin Post, No. 10, Grand Army of the Republic, Brooklyn, N. Y., the occasion being the presentation of J. A. Littlefield's portrait of Sergeant William Rankin to that Post. Sergeant Rankin, who was a gallant soldier of Company H, Fourteenth regiment, N. Y. S. M., was killed in action at Laurel Hill, Va., on Sunday, May 8, 1864. The Post, which bears his name, was organized in 1867 by his comrades, and now numbers over four hundred members. The rooms were tastefully decorated, and the exercises consisted of music on the organ and by file and drum corps, singing, speeches, and recitations. General Theodore B. Gates made the presentation speech on behalf of the committee, Messrs. T. B. Gates, Eason Garshaw, and Commander John H. Walker. The drum corps then "beat off" and the portrait was unveiled. "Corporal" James Tanner, who was chiefly instrumental in procuring the portrait for the adornment of the Post rooms, responded to the presentation ad-

dress in appropriate terms. After the recitation, "Memorials of Camp and Field," by Edwin Parsloe, of Buffalo, and the singing of war ballads, the exercises were concluded.

## HONORING A CHAPLAIN'S MEMORY.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

PLANO, ILL., August 5.—At a special meeting of Plano Post, No. 120, G. A. R., held July 31, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas our Great Commander has seen fit in his Providence to call our beloved Chaplain and Comrade Rev. John R. Burns from our Post to the new camping ground above, be it

Resolved, That by the death of our Chaplain and Comrade Rev. John R. Burns his wife has lost a loving companion, his children a devoted father, Plano Post, No. 120, G. A. R., a true soldier and comrade, and the community a citizen whose every effort was for the good of humanity.

Resolved, That we hereby express the sorrow and grief that we all as soldiers and citizens feel we have sustained by the sad event.

Resolved, That as those who knew him well and intimately we can testify that he was a true, sympathetic, and sincere friend, one who had a record untarnished by any selfish motives and whose whole life was devoted to principles of friendship, charity, and loyalty.

Resolved, That in token of our sorrow for our bereavement the Post room be draped in mourning and the members of the Post wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the widow of our deceased brother in testimony of our sympathy in this hour of her great affliction and trial; also that a copy be furnished THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

J. H. Jenks, Jonathan Agler, J. C. Harwood, committee.

## MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT NOTES.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

MEDFIELD, MASS., August 3, 1882.—The Norfolk county division of the Grand Army, Major John B. Lowell, of Post 58, Weymouth, commanding, made its first annual excursion since its division formation Wednesday, July 27th, to Downer's Landing, a famous and beautiful resort, located on the eastern coast of the old Bay State, a few miles south of Boston harbor. An invitation was extended by Commander Lowell to the Plymouth county boys to join in the excursion, which was accepted. The day was intensely warm but beautiful, and the boys rallied bravely, accompanied by their wives and daughters, to "sniff" the delightful breeze of "old ocean." Nearly every Post in the county was represented with a delegation under its commander, swelling the number of "Boys in Blue" to 400 strong. After arriving in Boston a line was formed under escort of the Weymouth brass band and marched to the pleasure steamer, which was soon steaming down the harbor enjoying the sea breeze and sweet and inspiring music discoursed by the Weymouth band, one of the finest local bands in New England.

At the landing the veterans partook of one of Crossman's famous short dinners, after which Commander Lowell, in a short and pleasing address, introduced Past Grand Commander-in-Chief Gen. George S. Merrill, of Lawrence, who made a splendid address, being followed by Past Department Commander Capt. J. G. B. Adams, of Lynn, in most felicitous speech. Eloquent addresses were also made by Department Commander George H. Patch, and members of the staff. The excursion was a grand success and it is hoped that more of them may take place, now the Grand Army is organized so thoroughly under command of a live and patriotic gentleman—Major John B. Lowell, of Weymouth.

FAIRFAX.

## OFFICIAL ORDER FROM COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF VANDERVOORT.

HEADQUARTERS G. A. R., Union Block, Cor. 15th and Fairview sts. OMAHA, NEB., July 31st, 1882.

General Orders, No. 2.

I, the following-named Comrades have been appointed aides-de-camp to the Commander-in-Chief, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Comrade H. J. Filman, Bordentown, N. J.; W. S. McNair, Wilmington, Del.; R. G. Leland, Delaware; C. C. Kinsman, Baltimore, Md.; H. C. Teeter, Braddock, Pa.; L. S. Tyler, Keokuk, Iowa; H. C. Towne, Des Moines, Iowa; Thomas R. Scott, 27 Backman street, N. Y.; William O. Saville, Baltimore, Md.; Lewis G. Gosson, Trenton, N. J.; S. B. Yeoman, Washington Court House, Ohio; J. R. Jones, Columbus, Ohio; E. P. Gould, Erie, Pa.; W. B. Shockey, Fort Scott, Kan.; Horace G. Wolf, Jessup, Iowa; J. E. De, Stromsburg, Neb.; Charles L. Marburg, Baltimore, Md.; Nathan Kimball, Ogden, Utah; A. W. Hites, Oak Hills, Cal.

II. Upon the nomination of the inspector-general, the following-named comrades are appointed assistant inspector-general, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Comrade H. A. Norton, Chicago, Ill.; C. A. Santmyer, Carthage, Ohio; Charles D. Gates, Cambridge, Vt. Additional appointments will be announced in future orders.

III. The Department heretofore known as the Department of the Mountains is hereby changed to the Department of Colorado, with headquarters at Denver. New Mexico and Wyoming Territories are added to this Department.

IV. Posts organized in Montana will report direct to National Headquarters until further order.

V. Information is wanted at these headquarters of the present address of Captain E. A. Wolcott, or First Lieutenant William True, of Company L, Sixteenth regiment Illinois cavalry, who was the address of said officers or men of Company A, First Tennessee light artillery. Also, the address of one George Richardson, of the Thirtieth Illinois cavalry.

VI. The Commander-in-Chief feels compelled to call the attention of Department Commanders again to the subject of quarterly reports, and urges upon them the necessity of being more prompt in the matter. Up to the present date but three reports have been received from Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New Orleans. We trust this subject will receive prompt attention.

VII. Department Commanders are requested to forward to these headquarters the Roster of their Departments.

VIII. The National Headquarters has no organ. No paper especially represents the Commander-in-Chief. He cordially thanks all papers published in the interests of the soldiers for their enthusiasm in behalf of the Grand Army. He earnestly desires them to continue in the good work. We must recruit 50,000 comrades this year, and in the effort to accomplish this result, he depends greatly on the labors of the editorial corps of the papers devoted to the cause.

By order of PAUL VANDERVOORT, Commander-in-Chief.

E. E. BROWN, Adjutant-General.

## CAMP-FIRE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

FITCHBURG, MASS., August 7.—Post No. 19, G. A. R., of Fitchburg, have completed arrangements for a grand Union Basket Picnic and Camp-fire at Washburn Park and Lake, Wednesday, August 16. Nearly all the Posts in Worcester county have been invited. Department Commander Patch and staff have signified their intention to be present, and we have strong hopes of securing the attendance of the Commander-in-Chief, as he is to be in the East during the month of August.

Mayor C. C. Emory, of Boston, will deliver a humorous address, and the "Old Folks Singing Association" of Fitchburg, under the direction of Uncle Cyrus Thurston, will enliven the occasion with songs of "Yo Olden Time." The speaking will be interspersed with national airs by the band. Games in abundance will be arranged, among them a match game of baseball between the South Fitchburg and Leomin-

ster clubs; contest between the "Massachusetts" and "Wobler" quill teams for the championship of Worcester county, the winning team to stand ready to play any other team on the ground; boat races, tug war, "tug of war," dancing in the pavilion, croquet, foot ball, skating, and swimming.

Those who do not care to be burdened with a basket can be accommodated with refreshments at reasonable prices. Arrangements have been made for half-fare on all the railroads, and the committee in charge will spare no pains to make things pleasant and lively for all who may attend.

A grand camp-fire will be lighted in the evening, and all who desire can trip the light fantastic toe to the music of Howard & Miller's orchestra. The skating-rink will be open during the day and evening. Never before has this Post been so thoroughly awake to the interest of the Order as during the present year, and we are determined to keep the ball moving.

## REUNION OF THE SEVENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

MANSFIELD, PA., August 4.—The fifth annual meeting of the Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry will be held here on the 13th of September, and the occasion promises to be one of extraordinary interest. There is every indication of a very large attendance. Invitations have been extended to all ex-soldiers, and among those expected to be present is that gallant veteran, Colonel Wynkoop, who will be royally welcomed. Major B. S. Dart is president of the association, Mr. O. G. Gerould vice-president, and Mr. E. B. Decker secretary, all thoroughly efficient officers, and under whose energetic supervision the Reunion cannot but prove a grand success. The hearty co-operation of citizens has been secured, and everything points to a most enjoyable time for all who attend.

## A NEW POST IN MARYLAND.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

HAVRE DE GRACE, AUGUST 3.—The Grand Army of the Republic organized a post in this city last night, which will be mustered in on the 16th instant. The following officers were elected: Commander, Charles A. Conner; S. V. C., John R. Day; J. V. C., Robert L. Moore; Q. M., Henry E. O'Neill. Nelson Case was appointed acting Adjutant. The election of other officers was postponed. The Post was entitled Admiral John R. Rogers Post, No. —, by a majority vote of those present, the name being given in honor of the late Admiral Rogers, who was a native of this city.

## CONVENTION OF PRISON SURVIVORS CALLED.

The following circular explains itself:

NATIONAL UNION OF SURVIVORS OF ANDERSONVILLE AND OTHER SOUTHERN MILITARY PRISONS.

NEW YORK, June 15, 1882.—It has been urged upon the Executive Committee of the "National Union of Survivors of Andersonville and other Southern Military Prisons," that on account of pension bills before Congress and other important matters to be considered by authorized delegates from State and local organizations, a convention of delegates should be held. We hereby invite and urge your association to send a delegation of one or five of your members, to such meeting to be held at the Twelfth Regiment Armory, corner of 45th street and Broadway, New York city, on the 6th day of September, 1882.

The New York State annual Reunion will be held at the same place and at the same time, and the members of that association will be pleased to welcome you.

So large a new growth of associations having been added to our numbers, and so many interests of all comrades are to be considered, that we hope to see a full representation from every quarter.

J. W. MERRILL, Pres't, 29 Liberty st., N. Y. EZRA H. RIPLEY, Vice-Pres't, Scranton, Pa. HIRSH BUCKINGHAM, Sec., Hartford, Conn.

## A NEW POST IN WISCONSIN.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

WHITEWATER, WIS., July 29, 1882.—The veterans here have organized a Post of the G. A. R. with forty-five charter members. We have named it in honor of a departed Captain Curtis who went from our town with the Fourth Wisconsin infantry. The list of officers elected to Post Curtis are as follows: Commander, E. D. Geer; S. V. C., E. S. Redington; J. V. C., E. Donally; Adj't, J. C. Criger; Q. M., E. G. Horton; Surgeon, J. Green; Chaplain, T. Kinnie; O. D. C., Smith; O. G., C. Rodwell; S. M., J. O. Knowlton; Q. M. Serg't, D. M. Fowler. The old veteran battalion contained about 300 members and we hope to get them all in the Post by December.

## GRAND ARMY NOTES.

J. D. O'Brien Post, No. 65, of Oswego, N. Y., will hold a Reunion during the present month, (our correspondent fails to give us the exact date), and there is every prospect of a most enjoyable time for the boys. Commander George Ketchum is commander, B. C. Barnes S. V. C., and Wm. A. Miller J. V. C.

Bradford, Ill., has a flourishing Grand Army Post of sixty members.

The coming soldiers' Reunion at Grand Island, Neb., promises to prove an exceedingly interesting event in the history of the Grand Army in the Northwest. The indications are that there will be a very large attendance.

James B. McPherson Post, No. 57, Department of Kansas, was recently organized at McPherson, Kas., by Department Commander Walkinshaw, with 101 members. Comrade M. P. Simpson has been chosen Commander.

The One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Ohio Veteran Infantry will hold a Reunion at Bowerton, Harrison county, on the 21st inst. Every effort will be made to make this celebration as pleasant and profitable as those of former occasions. Citizens are prepared to help the boys in the most cordial manner. Handsomely illustrated cards of invitation have been issued over the signature of John E. McPeck, president of the association, and Wm. H. Moor, of Company C, one of which has been received at the office of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

The veterans of Fall River, Mass., have resolved upon the organization of a Grand Army Post there. At a recent and well-attended meeting of veterans it was resolved to procure a charter and organize with the least possible delay. The roll has been signed by thirteen comrades.

The Post recently organized by Department Commander Shaw at Lafayette, Ind., which started with twenty-two members, is growing rapidly, and there is every indication of its soon becoming one of the most influential organizations of the kind in the State. It has been named Henry S. Lane Post, Department of Indiana.

There will be a Reunion of the Seventh Vermont volunteers at Rutland, Vt., August 29, 30, and 31. They will camp on the same ground they occupied twenty years ago.

A Post of the Grand Army has been organized at Bloomington, Ill., with forty-six charter members. A correspondent noticing the fact adds that "THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE is very popular among the boys."

The veterans residing at and in the vicinity of New Lisbon, Pa., have organized a Post, No. 251, with forty-six charter members. Its prospects of an increase to sixty are excellent. A correspondent tells us that many of the boys are readers of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, and that we may soon expect to hear from the Post "in the shape of a club."

## PENSION LEGISLATION.

## PASSAGE OF THE BILL REMOVING CHARGES OF DESERTION.

Its Prompt Approval by the President—Interesting Debate in the House on the Subject—Amending the Invalid Pension Bill—Relief for One-Armed Veterans Who Have Suffered Amputation at the Shoulder—Failure of the \$40 Bill in the Senate.

In the House on Saturday last the bill to relieve ex-soldiers from technical charges of desertion was reported favorably from the committee of conference through Mr. Calkins, who, in introducing it, said:

I desire at this time to submit a privileged report. I present the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to relieve certain soldiers from the charge of desertion.

The SPEAKER. The report will be read.

The report was read, as follows: The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. No. 324) to relieve certain soldiers of the late war from the charge of desertion having met, after a full and free conference has agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8.

That the Senate recede from its amendment numbered 7, with an amendment as follows: Insert "six" instead of "twelve"; so that it will read: "six months."

W. H. CALKINS, REEL TOWNSEND, R. W. TOWNSEND, Managers on the part of the House.

J. A. LOGAN, F. M. COCKRELL, Managers on the part of the Senate.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I desire to call the attention of the House to one item embodied in this report, in order to see whether we really accomplished what we intended to accomplish by the bill. This was intended to relieve soldiers from the charge of desertion, and to secure the issuance of their pay or their legal representatives whatever pay may have been withheld from them by reason of the charge of desertion.

Mr. HOUSE. I would like to ask the gentleman from Ohio what he means by "technical desertion?"

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I mean where a party is simply absent without leave, but reported as a deserter. For instance, this condition of affairs has given rise to numerous bills for the relief of soldiers from the charge of desertion who really had no intention of deserting.

Mr. HOUSE. May not a man be a deserter who is absent from his command without leave?

Mr. CALKINS. A man may be absent without leave and yet not be a deserter.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I will give the gentleman an instance to show what I mean. For instance, a regiment is ordered, we will say, to Louisville to be mustered out. It goes down the river, and at Cincinnati, if you please, there are a large number of soldiers who meet members of their families—their wives, mothers, or children—there, and who stop off, not with the intention of deserting from their command, but with the expectation of overtaking and rejoining the regiment at Louisville, to be mustered out with it. Now, this is after the war, remember. It may happen when they get to Louisville—and I speak now of a case in point—the regiment is ordered on to a little back, the men go on next morning, but are unable to overtake the regiment. The regiment is subsequently ordered back and is mustered out before they are able to reach their command. The result is they are returned as deserters, when they never thought of deserting. But the war being over they are found in this unfortunate situation.

Mr. REAGAN. May I ask the gentleman a question?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Yes, sir.

Mr. REAGAN. Is the bill not so framed as to cover all deserters as well as those who have been called technical deserters?

Mr. CALKINS. That is the only difficulty—whether it does not cover too much.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. After providing for all these cases this language is used, and I submit it to my friend from Tennessee [Mr. HOUSE] whether it does not undo all the first clauses the bill attempts to accomplish. After reciting that the Secretary of War may grant an honorable discharge in certain cases, that he may pardon and determine, etc., it adds this provision:

And provided further, That no soldier, nor his heirs or legal representatives of any soldier, who